

REMARKS

Claims 3, 5 – 6, 13, 17 – 27, and 32 – 44 are now pending in the application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 3 – 6, 9 – 10, 17, 19, 21, 28, 29, and 34 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Minoura (U.S. Pat. No. 6,433,847 B1) in view of Abe et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,104,460). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Examiner alleges that Minoura teaches the claimed pyramid-shaped convexities and concavities. Applicants, however, disagree with the Examiner's assertion that Minoura teaches the claimed pyramid shape. More specifically, Minoura merely teaches saw-tooth shaped projections. These saw-tooth shaped projections, however, fall short of the claimed pyramid-shaped convexities or concavities which are discussed in detail in paragraphs [0022]-[0026] of the specification. Since Minoura does not teach the claimed pyramid-shaped concavities or convexities as claimed, neither Minoura, Abe, nor any combination thereof teaches or suggests the claimed structure including the pyramid-shaped convexities or concavities. As such, the claimed structure would not have been obvious.

Claim 3 and each corresponding dependent claim, therefore, are not obvious in view of Minoura and Abe. There is no teaching, suggestion, or motivation to utilize a structure wherein the concavities or convexities are pyramid-shaped, as claimed. Since there is no teaching, suggestion, or motivation, it would not have been obvious.

Claims 11, 12, 23, 32, and 35 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Minoura (U.S. Patent No. 6,433,847 B1). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 11 and 12 have been cancelled. With respect to claim 23, as stated above, Minoura does not teach pyramid-shaped concavities or convexities. Minoura, rather, teaches saw-toothed projections. These saw-toothed projections, however, fall short of the claimed pyramid-shaped concavities or convexities. As such, claims 23 and each dependent claim are not obvious in view of Minoura.

Claims 13, 14, 18, 26, and 37 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Molsen (U.S. 6,573,959 B1) in view of Minoura (U.S. Patent No. 6,433,847 B1). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 13 and 26 have been amended to call for forming a insulating layer on the surface of a base, employing a mask to form at least one of a plurality of convexities and a plurality of concavities above a surface of the insulating layer, and forming a light reflecting film on said insulating layer. Neither Molsen nor Minoura teach employing a mask to form the convexities and concavities on a surface of the insulating layer. Since both Molsen and Minoura are silent with respect to this method, it would not have been obvious to combine the teachings of Molsen and Minoura to arrive at the claimed method.

Claims 15, 25, 27, and 38 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Molsen (U.S. 6,573,959 B1) in view of Minoura (U.S. 6,433,847 B1) and further in view of Hoshi Junichi et al. (JP-10-020290). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As stated above, neither Molsen nor Minoura teach employing a mask to form the convexities and concavities on a surface of the insulating layer. As such, the proposed combination of Molsen and Minoura does not yield the claimed invention. Further, with respect to Hoshi Junichi, Applicant respectfully asserts that the teaching of a cone shape falls short of a tear drop shape. That is, referring to Figure 21(d) and paragraphs [0135]-[0137] of the present application, it can be seen that the claimed teardrop shape includes an end that is an apex and an end that is bulbous, or curved. Now, referring to the figure depicted in Hoshi Junichi, it can be seen that no shape is taught that is comparable to a tear drop. Moreover, although it is alleged that Hoshi Junichi teaches a cone shape, each of the cones depicted are quadratic cones with no curved portions at all. As such, Applicant respectfully asserts that the claimed tear drop shape is neither taught nor suggested by Hoshi Junichi.

Claim 16 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Molsen (U.S. 6,573,959 B1) in view of Minoura (U.S. 6,444,847 B1) and further in view of Abe et al. (U.S. 6,104,460). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 16 is cancelled. This rejection, therefore, is moot.

Claims 20, 22, 30, 31, and 36 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Minoura (U.S. 6,544,847 B1) in view of Abe et al. (U.S. 6,104,460) and further in view of Hoshi Junichi et al. (JP-10-020290). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As stated above, with respect to Hoshi Junichi, the claimed tear drop shape is neither taught nor suggested. As such, the proposed combination of Minoura, Abe, and

Hoshi Junichi does not yield the claimed invention. Since the proposed combination does not yield the claimed invention, claims 20, 22, and 36 are not obvious.

Claims 24 and 33 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Minoura (U.S. 6,544,847 B1) in view of Hoshi Junichi et al. (JP-10-020290). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As stated above, Hoshi Junichi does not teach or suggest the claimed tear drop shape. The proposed combination of Minoura and Hoshi Junichi, therefore, does not yield the claimed invention. Claim 24 and 33, therefore, are not obvious in view of the proposed combination of Minoura and Hoshi Junichi.

New Claims

New claims 39-44 have been added. These claims are supported throughout the specification and drawings as originally filed. No new matter has been added. Favorable consideration of these new claims is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

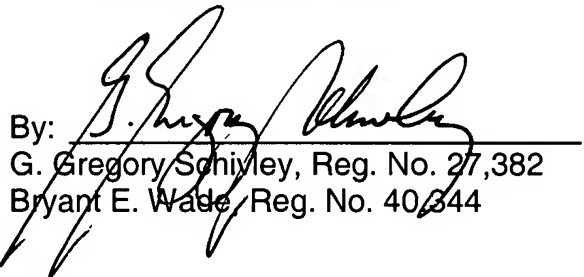
It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

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